MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is there any instance of an officer being recalled when he is away to England?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not know of any such instance. If circumstances arise, then only the Government will recall officers.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether there was any proposal, when the Lady Principal left for England on leave, for raising the College for Women into a first grade college?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There was only a preliminary proposal. The proposal was in an initial stage only.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know what was the urgent necessity which necessitated the recalling of the Lady Principal?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Director of Public Instruction wanted to consult her in connection with accommodation in the proposed first grade college, the subjects to be introduced in the B. A. classes and the opening of Group II and several other details about the raising of the college to the first grade.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether the Director of Public Instruction was not awares even long before, she left for England that such questions would crop up?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Cheif Secretary to Government*): The question did not come up for consideration when the Lady Principal left for England.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Was there any difficulty for the Director of Public Instruction to write to the Lady Principal and get the necessary information?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There was no time.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether the Acting Principal is not competent to give the necessary information on the matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It was thought better to get a reply from the permanent Principal since her opinion is to be given weight and since she is to run the institution after the subjects were introduced and the college raised to the first grade.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether the initiative for raising the college in to a first grade college came from the Director of Public Instruction or the Lady Principal?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say. Government act on the recommendations of the heads of departments.

Efficiency Bar for Promotion as Executive Engineers.

67. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is an efficiency bar for promotion in the Public Works Department from the grade of Assistant Engineer to that of Executive Engineer; if there is no such bar, will the Government be pleased to institute such a bar?

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[Mr. M. N. Pillai.]

(2) When works executed by the Public Works Department fail, what enquiry is made to ascertain if the failure is due to defects in design or execution, so as to fix the responsibility, if any, on the officers who designed or executed them?

(3) Will the Government be pleased to give a list of works costing Rs. 1,000 and above that failed during the ten years 1091-1100, with the names of the Engineers who designed and executed them and state if, in any case, the responsibility was brought home to the officers who designed or executed them?

(4) Will the Government be pleased to look into the record of officers nominated for promotion and see if there were works costing Rs. 1,000 and above designed and executed by them which have failed; and, if so, will they make a full enquiry into the cause of such failure before such officers are confirmed?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) Efficiency bar ordinarily means a bar placed at a certain stage of a time-scale of pay beyond which an inefficient officer will not get his increments. Such a bar cannot obviously apply in the case of promotions from a lower to a higher appointment. If, however, the member means whether efficiency is taken into consideration in the promotions of Assistant Engineers as Executive Engineers, the answer is in the affirmative.

(2) When failures occur, the causes are investigated, which include defects, if any, in execution and in design, in fixing responsibility.

(3) As the period is very long, the list can be prepared only after a good deal of labour in searching the records, and the time and labour involved therein are not justified by the utility of the search.

(4) The record of each officer is taken into consideration before nominations for promotions are made. The causes of failure of works, if any, are investigated then and there and if any failure is found to be due to the fault of any officer, it is recorded against him at the time and is reviewed when making nominations.

Cart Roads in Karunagapalli Taluk.

68. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): (1) Are the Government aware that the people of Karunagapalli taluk and of the south-western parts of Mavelikara taluk are suffering great loss and hardship in the transport of manure, agricultural produce, etc., for want of cart roads running west to east from the shore of the lake to the principal roads in the interior?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state the action taken for opening at least one cart road in Putupalli *pakuthi*, Karunagapalli taluk, running from the shore of the lake eastwards to Krishnapuram, which is connected with the principal roads running eastwards, northwards and southwards?

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